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Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1952.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting the following report on the public health services of the Rural District Council for the year 1952.

GENERAL PROVISIONS.

Public Health Officers.

Medical Officer of Health : Wm. Sharpe, M.B., Ch.B., B.Sc., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector : N.G. Mayne, A.R. San I. M.S.I.A.

County Council Nursing Staff operating in district:

Miss D.E. Abraham : Bainbridge District

Mrs. N. Jones : Hawes "

Mrs. M.J. Fairburn : W.Burton & Carperby District.

Ambulance Services.

The facilities provided by the County Council consist of ambulance stations at Northallerton and Bainbridge.

Laboratory Services.

Public Health Laboratory, Friarage Hospital, Northallerton.

General Statistics of the Area.

Area ( in acres)	81,032
Population (estimated mid-year, 1951)	3492
Inhabited houses	1237
Rateable Value	£ 13479
Product of 1d Rate	£ 54 . 2 . 4

(1)

(1)

(1)

(1)

# Vital Statistics.

	Males	Females	Total	Rates / 1000 Home Population	
				Local	England & Wales.
LIVE BIRTHS:					
Legitimate	30	29	59	} 17.5	15.3
Illegitimate	2	-	2		
STILLBIRTHS:					
Legitimate	-	-	-	} -	22.6 +
Illegitimate	-	-	-		
DEATHS:					
All Causes	26	26	52	14.9	11.3
Maternal Causes	-	-	-		0.72+
Infants under 1 year of age:					
Legitimate		1	1	} 16.4 +	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-		
Enteritis and diarrhoea under 2 years.	-	-	-	-	1.1

+ Rates per 1000 Total (Live and Still) Births.

## CLASSIFIED CAUSES OF DEATHS.

Cause of Deaths	Males	Females	Total	Rates / 1000 Home Population	
				Local	England & Wales.
ALL CAUSES	26	26	52	14.9	11.3
Tuber culosis		1	1	0.29	0.24
Cancer	1	4	5	1.43	-
Cardio Vascular	18	17	35	10.0	-
Diseases of the respira- tory System (excluding					
Tuberculosis and Pneumonia)	2	-	2	0.57	-
Nephritis & Nephrosis	1	1	2	0.57	-
Hyperplasia of Prostrate	1	-	1	0.29	-
Other defined and ill- defined diseases.	2	3	5	1.43	-
Accidents (excluding motor vehicle).	1	-	1	0.29	-



Infectious Diseases.

	Males	Females	Total	Rates / 1000 Home population.	
				Local	England & Wales.
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-	-	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-	-	0.02
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	0.03
Scarlet Fever	1	5	6	1.72	1.53
Whooping cough	-	-	-	-	2.61
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	0.01
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	0.14
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	0.00
Measles	16	21	37	10.6	8.86
Pneumonia	1	-	1	0.29	0.72
Acute Poliomyelitis (including polioenceph- alitis)					
Paralytic	-	-	-	-	0.06
Non-Paralytic	-	-	-	-	0.03
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	0.13
Peuperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	17.86+

+ Rates per 1000 Total ( Live and Still) Births.

It will be seen from the above table that the only disease unduly prevalent during the year was measles and that the incidence shows no significant increase above the national level.

It is gratifying to report the complete absence of diphtheria from the district which is doubtless due to the high level of national immunity achieved since 1941 by the intensive immunisation campaign. In certain areas this level has fallen considerable during the last few years which is the cause of considerable anxiety to all interested in preventive medicine. It is extremely necessary to maintain the immunisation rate at a high level if this disease is to be kept at bay.

The following table giving the immunisation rate in your district shows that in the pre-school age group it is slightly below the desired 75% level.

Immunisation rate	0 - 4 years	67%
	5 - 15 years	99%

I would also point out that the vaccination rate against smallpox has also declined considerable during the last few years. During the year under review only 50 % of the babies born in the district were protected against this very serious disease, and I would therefore like to urge all parents to avail themselves of the facilities provided, and have this very simple procedure carried out on all children.



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## Tuberculosis.

Age Group	New Cases		Deaths.	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
0 - 4	-	-	-	-
5 - 15	-	-	-	-
15+	3	-	1	-
Total	3	-	1	-

There were 13 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and 1 case of non-pulmonary tuberculosis on the register at the 31st December, 1952, which gives a rate of 4.01 cases of tuberculosis per 1000 population.

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948.

It has not been necessary to take action under Section 47 of the above Act which deals with the compulsory removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

## Environmental Hygiene.

### Water Supplies.

I must stress the need for the improvement of certain water supplies in the district. A number of sources are liable to heavy intermittent bacteriological contamination and therefore unfit for human consumption without treatment. The Hawes and Gayle supply is particularly bad since it consistently shows a very high bacterial count. An alternative supply or adequate treatment of the existing supply should be effected with great urgency in view of the ever present potential risk to health.

Other sources of water which are at present unsatisfactory supply the villages of Hardraw, Simonstone, Newbiggin, Thoraby, and Appersett.

### Sewage & Sewage Disposal.

Sewage disposal works are now in operation at Hawes, Aysgarth, Bainbridge, Worton, Carperby, Burtsett, Appersett and Hardraw.

The works serving Hawes & Gayle which were completed in 1951 have given a sub-standard effluent throughout the year which does not comply with the standards of the Yorkshire Ouse River Board. This appears to be due to the large amount of surface water gaining access to the sewerage system which has been in existence since 1875. Steps will have to be taken to overcome this difficulty and so improve the effluent.

The effluent from the Carperby Sewage Works which were constructed in 1903 is also much below the standard required and it is necessary for a considerable amount of reconstruction to be carried out before a satisfactory effluent can be expected.

A number of centres of population in the district are still without sewerage and sewage disposal systems. I appreciate that it is the earnest desire of the Council to provide these amenities and that they are only prevented from doing so by the considerable burden which it would place on the local ratepayers. At present I feel the first duty of the Council is to provide an adequate and wholesome supply of water to all parts of the district before embarking on any sewage schemes, if they consider that they have not sufficient economic resources to tackle both problems simultaneously.





### Refuse disposal.

The refuse collection was carried out during the year by a private contractor and was extended to include Burtersett. All the main townships and villages now have a fortnightly collection but it has been found impracticable to extend it to the more remote hamlets and farms. The tipping facilities are adequate, there being tips at Hawes, Askrigg, Aysgarth, and Carpley Green.

### Housing.

From the report of your Sanitary Inspector shown in the appendix it will be noted that a very large percentage of the houses so far surveyed fall into categories IV and V. Although the final percentage on completion of the survey is not likely to be so high, since the worst areas have been surveyed first, it will nevertheless be sufficiently high to be rather disturbing. The problem of unfit houses in rural areas gets progressively worse with each succeeding year, since very little attempt is being made by owners to effect improvements. It seems that there should now be some radical revision of central policy whereby more money and labour can be directed to the improvement of existing dwellings instead of the continuing concentration on new housing.

At present it is extremely difficult to obtain the cooperation of owners in the carrying out of necessary housing repairs which is very discouraging for tenants and health officials. I would appeal to the Council to be a little more ruthless in the exercise of their powers in regard to housing than they have hitherto been.

### Meat and Food Inspection.

Centralised slaughter of animals is carried out at the Leyburn Abattoir. Your Sanitary Inspector shares the duty of inspection with the Sanitary Inspector of Leyburn R.D.C.

Although minor improvements have been carried out during the year at this abattoir the conditions under which meat is killed and inspected still leave a lot to be desired. It would be extremely difficult to carry out effective improvements to the existing premises and a new abattoir on a site a little farther away from inhabited dwellings is urgently required.

I am, Gentlemen,  
Your obedient Servant,

Wm. SHARPE,  
Medical Officer of Health.

Thornborough Hall,  
Leyburn,  
August, 1953.

### APPENDIX.

#### Inspections carried out by Sanitary Inspector.

A total of 1133 inspections were carried out during the year and an analysis of these is given below.

	Inspections	Informal Notices	Complied with	Statutory Notices	Not comp- lied with
Council Works	425	-	-	-	-
Housing	391	19	16	-	3
Dairies and Cowsheeds	34	-	-	-	-
Public Health Acts	283	5	3	-	2



# BACTERIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF WATER.

No	Date of Sampling	Address	Summary of Analyst's Report.
1.	14.1.52	Asbestos Main, Hawes	No contamination, Suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
2.	14.1.52	Original Spring, Hawes	Not suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
3.	21.1.52	" " "	Classified as suspicious.
4.	28.1.52	Tap in Thornton Rust	Classified as suspicious.
5.	28.1.52	Bainbridge Reservoir	Not suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
6.	"	West Burton "	Classified as Suspicious
7.	"	Tap in A. Hogg's House, Thornton Rust.	Classified as suspicious.
8.	11.2.52	Aysgarth, Original Spring	No contamination. Suitable for drinking & domestic purposes.
9.	"	Main Collecting Chamber at Addleborough	Classified as auspicious.
10.	18.2.52	Main Collecting Tank at Addleborough	No contamination. Suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
11.	"	Collecting tank Appersett	Not suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
12.	20.2.52	Collecting Tank, Sedbusk	No contamination. Suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
13.	"	Hardraw Collecting Tank	Not suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
14.	27.2.52	Askrigg Reservoir	No contamination. Suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
15.	2.4.52	Spring in Fors Paster, High Fors Farm.	No contamination. Suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
16.	2.4.52	Spring in Beldshaw Pasture High Fors	Not suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
17.	15.4.52	Tap Moorcock Cottages	No contamination. Suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
18.	29.4.52	Spring in Field No 327, Hardraw	Not suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
19.	3.6.52	Hawes Reservoir	Not suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
20.	10.6.52	Hawes Water Collecting Tank	Not suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
21.	"	" " " " Field 276	Not suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.





No.	Date of Sampling	Address	Summary of Analyst's Report.
22.	24.6.52	Tap Lingy Pasture Spring, Carperby	No contamination. Suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
23.	"	Carperby Reservoir	Not suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
24.	28.7.52	" "	Not suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
25.	"	Askrigg Reservoir	No contamination. Suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
26.	29.7.52	West Burton Reservoir	Classified as suspicious
27.	"	Reservoir at Addleborough	Not suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
28.	5.8.52	D. Spring Collecting Tank, Addleborough	Not suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
29.	"	Aysgarth Spring Collecting Tank, Addleborough	Not suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
30.	25.8.52	Original Spring Field 276, Hawes	Not suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
31.	"	Asbestoes Main Field 296, Hawes	Not suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
32.	"	Original Spring Field 276, Hawes	Not suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
33.	26.8.52	Scotts Spring, Carperby Reservoir	Not suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
34.	16.9.52	Spring No. 2. Hawes Water	No contamination. Suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
35.	"	Collecting tank, Field No. 276 Hawes	Not suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
36.	"	Collecting Tank, Original Spring, Hawes.	Not suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
37.	"	Land Spring, Asbestos Main, Hawes Water.	No contamination. Suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
38.	22.9.52	Thornton Rust Reservoir	Not suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
39.	"	Aysgarth Collecting Tank	Not suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
40.	"	D. Spring, Addleborough	Not suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
41.	"	Reservoir - Addleborough	Not suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
42.	"	B. Spring, Addleborough	Not suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.





No	Date of Sampling	Address	Summary of Analyst's Report.
43	1.10.52	Myers Hill Spring, Simonstone	Not suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
44	7.10.52	D. Spring, Addleborough	No contamination. Suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
45	"	Aysgarth Spring, Addleborough	No contamination. Suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
46	14.10.52	Field 534	Not suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
47	20.10.52	Spring in Field 301	Not suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
48	11.11.52	Field 534	Not suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
49	25.11.52	Lingy Pasture, Carperby Water	Not suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
50	"	Scotts Spring, "	No contamination. Suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
51	29.12.52	Carperby Reservoir	No contamination. Suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF WATER.

No	Date	Address	Summary of Analyst's Report.
1	3.1.52	Hawes Water, Field 296 (Asbestos Main)	Satisfactory as regards purity. Action on galvanised iron pipes.
2	3.1.52	" " " 381 (Iveson's Field)	Contamination from surface. Action on galvanised iron pipes.
3	3.1.52	" " " 276 (Original Supply)	Contamination from surface. Action on galvanised iron pipes.
4	1.12.52	Birkrigg Farm, Hawes	Satisfactory.



Table showing population supplied from Public Water Mains.

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Houses</u>	<u>Population</u>
Abbotside High .. .. .	85	284
Abbotside Low .. .. .	25	64
Askrigg .. .. .	143	476
Aysgarth .. .. .	65	260
Bainbridge .. .. .	149	422
Bishopdale .. .. .	-	-
Burton-cum-Walden .. .. .	97	227
Carperby-cum-Thoresby .. .. .	64	197
Hawes .. .. .	367	982
Newbiggin .. .. .	22	64
Thoralby .. .. .	45	118
Thornton Rust .. .. .	34	114

Total No Houses in Area	1237	Total Population	3492
Total No Houses supplied from Public Mains	1096	Total Population supplied from Public Mains	3208
Total Number Houses Where supply is satisfactory	560	Total Population where supply is satisfactory	1699
Total Number of Houses Where supply is unsatisfactory	536	Total Population where supply is unsatisfactory	1509
		(Includes Hawes & Gayle where there are 305 houses with an estimated population of 867).	

Table showing number of Houses connected to Public Sewers.

<u>Parish</u>	<u>No. of Houses</u>	<u>Population Served.</u>
Abbotside High .. .. .	49	142
Abbotside Low .. .. .	-	-
Askrigg .. .. .	-	-
Aysgarth .. .. .	51	217
Bainbridge .. .. .	145	412
Bishopdale .. .. .	-	-
Burton-cum-Walden .. .. .	-	-
Carperby-cum-Thoresby .. .. .	57	178
Hawes .. .. .	359	962
Newbiggin and Thoralby .. .. .	-	-
Thornton Rust .. .. .	-	-
	<u>661</u>	<u>1911</u>

With a total population of approximately 3492 the percentage for which sewerage is provided is 54%.

#### HOUSING SURVEY.

Houses surveyed were classified as follows : -

Total number of houses	1237
" " " " Surveyed	759
Class 1 Satisfactory in all respects	84
Class 2 Minor defects	249
Class 3 Repairs or structural alterations.	319
Class 4 Suitable for improvement work under the Housing Act, 1949	147
Class 5 Unfit for habitation	107





Overcrowding.

(a) Total number of houses overcrowded at the beginning of the year	2
(b) Number of families dwelling therein	2
(c) Number of new cases of overcrowding	NIL
(d) Number of cases relieved	NIL
(e) Number of persons concerned in such cases	NIL.

HOUSING AND NEW BUILDINGS.

Houses built by Private Enterprise.

The tables below gives details of houses under construction and those completed since 1945 in the various parishes: -

Parish	Completed	Under Construction.
Hawes	2	-
Askrigg	4	-
Thornton Rust	1	-
Aysgarth	1	-
		-
Total	8	-

Houses built by Aysgarth R.D.C.

Parish	Completed	Under Construction.
Hawes	18	-
Bainbridge	8	-
Askrigg	4	-
Carperby	4	2
Aysgarth	4	-
West Burton	2	-
Total	40	2

Building Licences.

The following table gives details of work licensed during the year 1952 : -

	No	Values.
New Buildings	2	£ 1680
Repairs and Adaptions	8	£ 4171
Total	10	£ 5851



# PLANS

34 Plans were considered during the year. Details are shown in the table .

	New Buildings	Alter to Dwellings	Garage & Sheds	Cowsheds & Dairies	Other Buildings	Signs	Total
Hawes	1	2			2	2	7
Bainbridge			1	1	2	4	8
Askrigg							
Carperby		2	1		1		4
Aysgarth	1	2				1	4
Thornton Rust	1						1
Woodhall			3				3
Thoralby			1				1
Cubeck				1			1
Marsett			1				1
Countersett			1				1
Appersett			2				2
Stallingbusk				1			1
Total	3	6	10	3	5	7	34

## FACTORIES ACT 1937

	Powered	Non Powered	Number on Register	Inspe- ctions	Number of written notices	Occupiers Prosecuted.
(1) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4,& 6 are enforced by District Council.		8	8	12	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 Applied	22		22	26	-	-

Particulars	Pow- ered.	Number of cases in which defects were found			
		Found	Remedied	Notified by H.M. Inspector	Number of cases in which prose- cutions were instituted.
Want of Cleanliness	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temp.	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Vent- ilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drain- age of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences:					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-



# Factories Act 1937.

## Trades.

Dairies .. .. .	2
Mineral Water Factories .. .. .	1
Boot Repairs .. .. .	3
Cement Works .. .. .	1
Printers .. .. .	1
Garages .. .. .	8
Smiths .. .. .	3
Tailors .. .. .	1
Grist .. .. .	1
Sawmills .. .. .	2
Millers .. .. .	1
Bakers .. .. .	3
Joiners .. .. .	3

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## FOOD INSPECTIONS.

During the year the following food stuffs were inspected and surrendered as being unfit for human consumption : -

Article	No	Weight.
Tinned Salmon	3	10½ ozs.
Cooked Tinned Ham	1	12 lbs.
Bacon	-	45 lbs.
	Total	57lbs. 10½ ozs.

## MEAT INSPECTIONS.

	Graded Animals.	Casualty Animals.
Beasts	433	-
Cows	-	137
Calves	-	60
Sheep	1864	165
Pigs	113	58

Total weight of meat and offal condemned 13 tons 16 cwts. 3 qrs.  
Total weight affected with tuberculosis 4 tons 8 cwts 2 qrs.

### Details of carcasses inspected and condemned.

	Cattle (excluding cows)	Cows.	Calves	Sheep & Pigs	Pigs
Number killed	433	137	60	2029	171
Number inspected	433	137	60	2029	171
All diseases except tuberculosis.					
Whole carcasses condemned	4	30	19	44	8
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	127	80	7	36	9
Percentage of number inspected with diseases other than T.B.	30.2%	80.2%	43.3%	3.9%	9.9%
Tuberculosis only: -					
Whole carcasses condemned.	3	15	1	-	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	35	13	-	-	5
Percentage of the number inspected affected with T.B.	8.7%	20.4%	1.6%	-	3.5%



